

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H. 4305**

(Doc. No. 11827ab07.doc)

TO:	The Honorable Daniel T. "Dan" Cooper, Chairperson, House Ways and Means Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein, Beth Quick		
DATE:	April 15, 2008	SBD:	2008225

AUTHOR:	Representative Funderburk	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	47-10-10
SUBJECT:	Equine Promotion Act		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

House Bill 4305 amends Title 47 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Chapter 10 so as to create the South Carolina Equine Promotion Act. The Bill creates a 15-member Equine Promotion Board and requires the equine specialist within the Department of Agriculture and an equine specialist appointed from Clemson University to serve as advisory members. The Bill imposes a \$2.00 per ton fee on all commercial feed and custom blends for equine use sold in this State. The fees collected are to be deposited in a separate Equine Promotion Fund within the State Treasury which is to be used solely by the Board to promote the equine industry in the State and to reimburse the Department of Agriculture for related administrative expenses. The Bill lists various promotional activities, requires the State Auditor to conduct an annual audit of the Equine Promotion Fund, and requires the Board to periodically survey the industry regarding the assessed fee.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Department of Agriculture and the Treasurer's Office report that there would be no cost to the General Fund of the State. The provisions of this Bill will be the responsibility of the Equine Promotion Board and any costs incurred would be covered by the Equine Promotion Fund from fees collected from the sale of commercial feed and custom blends. Any other funds expenditures associated with the Department of Agriculture's administrative responsibilities under this Bill would be covered with other funds revenue (see Section 47-10-50 (A)).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

The Board of Economic Advisors is the appropriate entity to address any revenue impact associated with this Bill.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget